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Comprehensive review of the whole question of peacekeeping operations in all their aspects

Administrative and budgetary aspects of the financing of the United Nations peacekeeping operations

Comprehensive review on a strategy to eliminate future sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations

Programme budget implications of draft resolution A/C.4/59/L.20

Statement submitted by the Secretary-General in accordance with rule 153 of the rules of procedure of the General Assembly

1. Under the terms of draft resolution A/C.4/59/L.20, the General Assembly would endorse the proposals, recommendations and conclusions of the Special Committee on Peacekeeping Operations on the report entitled "A comprehensive strategy to eliminate future sexual exploitation and abuse in United Nations peacekeeping operations", prepared by H.R.H. Prince Zeid Ra'ad Zeid Al-Hussein (see A/59/710), as reflected in section II of the Special Committee's report (A/59/19/Add.1).

2. The financial implications of the implementation of those proposals and recommendations contained in section II.A, B, F to K and N of the report of the Special Committee would be as follows:

Uniform standard

(a) The Special Committee recommends that the Secretary-General issue the standards set out in his bulletin (ST/SGB/2003/13) in a manner convenient to troop-contributing countries, in the languages of contingent members of peacekeeping missions as well as in the official languages of the United Nations, with translations of the standards to be provided by troop-contributing countries and the United Nations arranging publication at mission cost as agreed with the troop-contributing countries (A/59/19/Add.1, para. 9). It has been estimated that an amount of $10.000

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is required to implement this recommendation, which will be absorbed within existing 2005/06 mission budgets.

Training

(b) The Special Committee recommends that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations make available, on induction and throughout the mission assignment, training on the required standards of conduct and, in particular, on the detailed prohibitions in the Secretary-General's bulletin (A/59/19/Add.1, para. 10). The implementation of this recommendation calls for (i) the development of the training module; (ii) training expertise to build training capacity; and (iii) the cost of a training workshop for a total amount of $306,000, for which extrabudgetary funding will be sought.

(c) The Special Committee calls upon the Department of Peacekeeping Operations to review HIV/AIDS training to ensure that the prohibitions in the Secretary-General's bulletin are fully included (A/59/19/Add.1, para. 11). One HIV/AIDS adviser is currently proposed in the 2005/06 support account budget, for which the post and non-post resources, including a delayed recruitment factor of 50 per cent, amount to $128,700. The position would contribute to the review of training activities in support of the departmental policy on HIV/AIDS. The total requirement at full cost for the post and non-post resources for the 2006/07 period and onwards is estimated at $195,100.

Welfare and recreation

(d) The Special Committee recommends that the Secretary-General carry out a comprehensive review, including a cost-benefit analysis, of the welfare and recreation needs for all categories of peacekeeping personnel, to include, inter alia, a review of the rules on rest and recreation, including classification of duty stations as family or non-family for United Nations civilian staff; the need for welfare officers and stress counsellors, bearing in mind existing capabilities already deployed; development of minimum standards of welfare and recreation facilities for all categories of personnel; and a review of the effectiveness of the system of welfare payments; proposals are to be made to the General Assembly during its sixtieth session (A/59/19/Add.1, para. 20). The review of the welfare and recreation needs for peacekeeping personnel will be examined in the context of the overall approach to welfare provision. The classification of duty stations as family or non-family for United Nations civilian staff will be addressed in the context of the revised conditions of service in the field missions. Both reviews will be presented after the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly together with the related budgetary implications.

(e) The Special Committee recommends that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations take steps to improve living conditions and welfare and recreation facilities for all categories of personnel as soon as possible, including, but not limited to recreational sites for rest and recuperation of contingent members, use of mission transportation assets to such sites, Internet facilities, and inter-contingent sporting facilities (A/59/19/Add.1, para. 21). The resource requirements to implement this recommendation will be absorbed within existing mission budgets.

(f) The Committee further recommends that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations discuss plans for provision of welfare and recreation

facilities with troop-contributing countries during the predeployment assessment conducted by the Force Generation Service and that the provision of such facilities in missions be monitored by the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, using existing monitoring mechanisms, while troops are deployed (A/59/19/Add.1, para. 23). The budgetary implications of this recommendation will be taken into consideration during the review by the Working Group on contingent-owned equipment.

Data management

(g) The Special Committee recommends that the Secretary-General establish a data collection and management system at Headquarters and in the field to track allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse and responses of missions to those allegations (A/59/19/Add.1, para. 24). The design and implementation of the database will be performed by the Communications and Information Technology Service of the Office of Mission Support of the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, using existing resources. The travel cost relating to the installation and implementation of the data collection and management system in the field missions will require $70,000, which will be absorbed within the proposed 2005/06 support account budget and the proposed 2005/06 mission budgets.

Capacity to address misconduct

(h) The Special Committee recommends the strengthening of capacity at the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, with due attention to avoiding duplication of resources and functions, to address all cases of misconduct including sexual exploitation and abuse, to provide prompt advice to missions, to ensure the coherent application of United Nations procedures, and to provide guidance and advice for all categories of civilian and uniformed personnel (A/59/19/Add.1, para. 28). The budgetary implications of this recommendation will be as follows:

(i) *In 2005/06*. The establishment of a Personnel Conduct Unit at Headquarters will require 8 additional posts estimated at $994,200 for the post and non-post resources, including a delayed recruitment factor of 50 per cent. This requirement has been proposed in the support account budget for the period 2005/06. The establishment of the Personnel Conduct Units in MONUC, UNOCI, ONUB, UNMIL, MINUSTAH and UNAMSIL in the 2005/06 period will require 45 additional posts estimated at $5.4 million. The establishment of the Personnel Conduct Unit in UNMIS would require the establishment of 10 additional posts estimated at $1.2 million, which will be included in the forthcoming mission budget for the period 2005/06. Of the 45 posts required to establish Personnel Conduct Units in MONUC, UNOCI, ONUB, UNMIL, MINUSTAH and UNAMSIL, 16 posts have already been included in the missions' budgets for the period 2005/06, amounting to $2.3 million. The requirement for the remaining 29 posts estimated at $3.1 million will be absorbed within the missions' budgets for 2005/06.

(ii) *In 2006/07*. The establishment of Personnel Conduct Units in UNMIK, UNMEE, MINURSO, UNOMIG, UNAMA, UNMOGIP, UNFICYP, UNDOF, UNIFIL, UNTSO, the Office of the United Nations Special Coordinator for the Middle East Peace Process and UNMISET would require 24 additional posts estimated at $3.2 million. This requirement will be proposed in the missions'

budgets for the period 2006/07. The total requirement at full cost for the period 2006/07, including the capacity established in 2005/06 at Headquarters (8 posts) and in the field missions (16 posts) and the remaining 29 posts to be established in MONUC, UNOCI, ONUB, UNMIL, MINUSTAH and UNAMSIL, will require a total of 84 posts estimated at $10.8 million.

Investigations

(i) The Special Committee recommends the establishment of a professional and independent investigative capacity, with necessary expertise, within the administrative authority of the United Nations, bearing in mind General Assembly resolution 59/287, to investigate allegations of sexual exploitation and abuse and other allegations of misconduct of a similar grave nature where complex investigative techniques are needed (A/59/19/Add.1, para. 30). The budgetary implications of this requirement will be examined in the context of the overall approach to professional investigative capacity and will be presented after the fifty-ninth session of the General Assembly.

Public information and communications

(j) The Special Committee recommends that the Department of Peacekeeping Operations, in cooperation with the Department of Public Information, establish an effective outreach programme to explain the Organization's policy against sexual exploitation and abuse and to establish effective mechanisms to enable individuals to make complaints in a confidential setting (A/59/19/Add.1, para. 32). The requirement will be examined within the overall approach/strategy on assistance to victims which will be provided to the General Assembly after the fifty-ninth session together with the related budgetary implications.

Victim assistance

(k) The Special Committee recommends that the Secretary-General provide to the Special Committee at its next session a comprehensive strategy for assistance to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse, including means for financial compensation (A/59/19/Add.1, para. 34). This requirement will be examined within the overall approach/strategy on assistance to victims which will be provided to the General Assembly after the fifty-ninth session together with the related budgetary implications.

(l) The Special Committee recommends that, until such a comprehensive strategy for assistance to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse has been implemented, missions should provide emergency assistance to victims of sexual exploitation and abuse within current mission budgets (A/59/19/Add.1, para. 35). The budgetary implications of this recommendation will be absorbed within existing missions' budgets.

Group of legal experts

(m) The Special Committee recommends that the Secretary-General appoint a group of legal experts to prepare and submit to the General Assembly at its sixtieth session for its consideration a comprehensive report:

(i) To provide advice on the best way to proceed so as to ensure that the original intent of the Charter of the United Nations can be achieved, namely that United Nations staff and experts on mission would never be effectively exempt from the consequences of criminal acts committed at their duty station, nor unjustly penalized, in accordance with due process (A/59/19/Add.1, para. 40 (a));

(ii) To provide advice on whether, and if so how, the standards in the Secretary-General's bulletin (ST/SGB/2003/13) could bind contingent members in the period prior to the conclusion of a memorandum of understanding or other agreement or other action by a troop-contributing country that incorporates those standards in a legally effective way under its national law (A/59/19/Add.1, para. 40 (b));

(iii) To study and propose ways of standardizing the norms of conduct applicable to all categories of peacekeeping personnel, paying particular attention to the issue of sexual exploitation and abuse (A/59/19/Add.1, para. 40 (c)).

(n) It has been established that the implementation of paragraphs 40 (a), (b) and (c) of A/59/19/Add.1 will necessitate the employment of five legal experts for a period of three months estimated at $170,100, which will be funded from extrabudgetary resources.

Conclusions

3. Accordingly, should the General Assembly adopt draft resolution A/C.4/59/L.20 on the recommendation of the Fourth Committee, the financial implications would be as follows:

(a) A total estimated amount of $1,157,900 will be absorbed within the proposed 2005/06 support account budget; and an amount of $1,595,100 will be proposed in the 2006/07 support account budget.

(b) A total estimated amount of $6,645,000 will be absorbed within the proposed 2005/06 missions' budget; and $9,400,000 will be proposed in the 2006/07 missions' budget.

(c) An estimated amount of $476,100 will be sought from extrabudgetary funding.

(d) The budgetary implications referred to in paragraph 2 (f) above will be considered during the review by the Working Group on contingent-owned equipment.

(e) The budgetary implications referred to in paragraphs 2 (d), (i), (j) and (k) of the present report will be considered following the reviews to be submitted to the General Assembly after its fifty-ninth session.

(f) A summary of the Personnel Conduct Units referred to in paragraphs 2 (h) (i) and (ii) above appear below:

	Budget period from 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006					
	Posts			*Financial requirements (Thousands of United States dollars)*		
	Headquarters	*Missions*	*Total*	*Headquarters*	*Missions*	*Total*
Requirements[a]	8	55	63	994.2	6 595.9	7 590.1
Posts included in the 2005/06 budgets	8	26	34	994.2	3 510.6	4 504.8
Balance[b]	**—**	**29**	**29**	**—**	**3 085.3**	**3 085.3**

	Budget period from 1 July 2006 to 30 June 2007					
	Posts			*Financial requirements (Thousands of United States dollars)*		
	Headquarters	*Missions*	*Total*	*Headquarters*	*Missions*	*Total*
Number of posts required	8	76	84	1 398.9	9 421.4	10 820.3
Total	**8**	**76**	**84**	**1 398.9**	**9 421.4**	**10 820.3**

[a] Including the requirements of 10 posts which will be proposed in the forthcoming 2005/06 budget for the United Nations Mission in the Sudan.

[b] The missions will attempt to absorb the balance requirement for the period 2005/06 within the proposed 2005/06 budgets. The outcome of this will be reported in the performance report for the same period.

4. Detailed resource requirements on the implementation of the proposals, conclusions and recommendations of the Special Committee, including those which may have implications for the Secretary-General's programme budget for the biennium 2004-2005 and proposed programme budget for the biennium 2006-2007, would be provided to the Fifth Committee for its examination and advice to the General Assembly.